

## EDIFY

### 1 Cor 14:1-6

**1 Cor 14:1** *Follow after charity:* Let your greatest aim be love.

*Desire spiritual gifts:* Long for the very special abilities and equipment God will give you in order to be effective in His kingdom.

*But rather:* More important *that ye may prophesy:* Desire to communicate through preaching and teaching the will of God

OT prophets – Two fold ministry:

1. Foretelling the future
2. Forth telling the Word.

Today, the prophet of God says, "*Thus saith the Lord*" with Bible in hand.

**1 Cor 14:2** *Unknown:* Not known to speaker and listeners.

*Speaketh not unto men, but unto God:* Not one man understand you. Only one who hears you is God.

Tongues of no value to them if only used for the one speaking to get a sense of being built up, lifted up, edified.

*For no man understandeth him:* **1 Cor 14:23** Unbelievers think he is mad.

Accomplish opposite purpose. It was intended to reach unbelieving Jew

... *howbeit in the spirit* : spirit of man. *Mysteries:* Things man can not know

Even though in your spirit you feel a very special sense of mystery, as you speak people can not understand a thing you are saying. The only one who can hear you is God.

Context: Tongues vs prophesy

**1 Cor 14:3**

1. Speak specifically so understood
2. Edification
3. Exhortation
4. Comfort

Gromaki: 3-fold goal in his preaching: *Build up, stir up, and to cheer up.*

*Edification:* to build lives up; promote spiritual growth.

*Exhortation:* Urge one to pursue course of conduct. Idea of issuing warnings or admonitions.

*Comfort:* Exhortation emphasizes future while Comfort emphasizes present.

Word of God effectively preached:

1. Spiritual growth promoted
2. People admonished and confronted.
3. People encouraged in their present trial.

**1 Cor 14:4** Many believe Paul sarcastic

1 Cor 12:7 Manifestation gifts for benefit of body and not individuals.

Mac: *They (tongues) cannot therefore, be intended by God for private devotional use, as many Pentecostals and Charismatics claim...is referring to the supposed value the Corinthians placed on their self-styled tongues speaking. The satisfaction many of the believers experienced in their abuse of tongues was self-satisfaction, which came from pride induced emotion, not from spiritual edification. It is an illegitimate self-building, often building up nothing more than spiritual pride.*

The proclamation of the Word has more value to building up of body than tongues!

**1 Cor 14:5** *But rather ...* If you are going to seek a gift ... then seek to prophecy. *For greater is he that prophesieth ...* When prophet speaks, body edified, exhorted, comforted...Not so with tongues. *Except he interpret ...edifying*. The one speaking in tongues on same level of impact in local church if interpreted what saying. **Interpret:** translate; explain thoroughly

Commitment: I will give myself to the edifying of the body

Point: Tongues does not edify the body. Prophecy does!

**1 Cor 14:6** If I, Paul, come to you and speak to you in an unknown language how can this be an advantage to you?

Answer: it can't profit you!

Fellowship demands followship.

**1 Cor 14:6**

**1. Revelation:** uncover something which has been previously covered.

Declaration of Word.

**2. Knowledge** (gnosis) gain clear insight into God's Word.

**3. Prophesying:**

Foretelling: Future events

Forthtelling: Preaching. Edifying, exhorting, comforting.

Knowledge: objective --words

Prophesying: subjective--preaching of Word of God.

Basis is Revelation--declaration of Word

**4. Doctrine:** process of teaching God's revelation.

Paul's desire --be profitable to them.

**So What?**

I will give myself to the edifying of the body